

First Parish in Cambridge – April 28, 2019
SPORK and their Friends - CB Beal, M.Div.

Welcome to First Parish!

First Parish in Cambridge is a multi-faith, spirit-filled congregation devoted to love and justice. We are moving joyfully into a multiracial, multicultural, justice-making future. We embrace all ages, races, classes, abilities, sexual orientations, gender presentations, and ethnic and religious backgrounds. Honoring all the faith traditions of the world, we support each person's path to wisdom and spiritual growth. Whoever you are, wherever you are on the journey of life, we welcome you into our hearts.

If you're here for the first time, we invite you to fill out a visitor card located in the pew and leave it in the collection plate. We'll sign you up for our weekly e-mail announcements and monthly newsletter.

All are welcome to join us in Helverson Parlor following the service for refreshments.

For those attending with children, you are welcome to worship as a family or children ages 4 and under are welcome in our Nursery. An usher can direct you to RE staff. Registration is required.

Participating in the Service

CB Beal, M.Div., Guest Preacher
Rev. Danielle Di Bona, Developmental Minister
Mandy Neff, Director of Religious Education
Carol Lewis, Director of Administration
Jonathan Barnhart, Music Director
The First Parish Choir
Peter Lowber, Welcome Team Leader

Religious Education for Children and Youth

Please join us for religious education programs. Nursery care for children under 4 opens on the second floor at 9:00 am.

The following programs begin promptly at **10:30**:

OWL	4-5th Grade	Chapel, first floor
Lodestone	6 th – 8 th Grade	Fuller Room, Mezzanine

Our other classes begin after the Story for All Ages

Spirit Play	PreK-1st Grade	Baldwin Room, Mezzanine
OWL	K-1st Grade	Barn Room, second floor
Theme Group	2 nd – 6 th Grade	Parlor, first floor

Today's Events

Preemptive Radical Inclusion: Bear Witness Build Community

Please join us in the Chapel following the service for a **12:00pm Light Lunch** and **12:30pm-2:00pm Workshop** with our guest preacher this Sunday, CB Beal, M.Div.

In this workshop, we will briefly explore the ideas of "preemptive radical inclusion" as a practice to increase justice, we will practice skills and bear witness to one another. CB will hold space within which we explore who we are, both broadly and individually, to continue growth as beloved community, a community of justice, equity, and love.

Child care will be available.

During Social Hour **MEEG** members will have a petition you can sign to request that legislation being prepared at the national level not interfere with free speech in the area of Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions activities.

Today is also **Open Mosque Day**. The Islamic Society of Boston (ISB) at 204 Prospect, Cambridge, is holding the Third Annual Open Mosque Day from 12:00-5:00 pm this Sunday. Many of us attended last year and were warmly received. We hope that some members of First Parish will be able to attend today.

Shared Offering for April

Our recipient for **April** is the **Louis D. Brown Peace Institute**: <http://www.ldbpeaceinstitute.org/>. Founded in 1994 by Tina Chery, the mother of Louis D. Brown who was killed in 1993, at age 15, by gun violence, the Institute's mission is to be a center of healing, teaching, and learning for families and communities impacted by murder, trauma, grief, and loss. Their principles are those that many of us strive for and believe in: Love, Unity, Faith, Hope, Courage, Justice, and Forgiveness.

In addition to being the Shared Offering recipient for April, the Institute will again sponsor the **Mother's Day Walk for Peace**, and we're hoping many from our congregation will participate.

Upcoming Events - Save These Dates!

DATE CHANGE!

GBIO Health Care Campaign at First Parish!

- Are you or someone close to you struggling to pay for necessary medicines or other health care?
- Have you or someone close to you suffered from mental health problems and not received the help you or they need?

On **MAY 19** at 12:15 in the Barn Room, come share your stories and learn about the campaign. Last year Greater Boston Interfaith Organization held hundreds of small group discussions across our 45 congregations, including First Parish, to help plan our agenda for change in 2019. We identified four issues that need action to improve health care in Massachusetts: High Cost of Prescription Drugs; High Out of Pocket Costs; Mental Health Care; Health Care for Immigrant Children. For more information about the event, contact Marcia Hams (marciahams@gmail.com) or Tod Hibbard (hibbard79@gmail.com).

The Environmental Justice Task Force invites you to join us for a book reading with **Stephanie Kaza on Wednesday, May 1st at 7:00 p.m. in the Barn Room**. Stephanie Kaza is a practicing Zen Buddhist and pioneer of Green Buddhist thought. She was a professor and program director of Environmental Studies at the University of Vermont. She currently lives and works in Portland, OR, and is a member of the First UU Church there. She will explore with us challenging issues in climate, sustainability and humanity through her two books - *Green Buddhism: Practice and Compassionate Action in Uncertain Times*; and *Conversations with Trees: An Intimate Ecology*.

Middle East Education Group Event – May 5

Ministerial Intern Will Williamson will give a talk after church in the chapel on “The Role of Mary Mother of Jesus in Islam.” All are welcome. Presented by the Middle East Education Group. Next Sunday, May 5, our intern minister Will Williamson will give a talk at 12:30 in the chapel on The Role of Mary, the Mother of Jesus in Islam. Feel free to bring items from the potluck luncheon. All are welcome.

Join The Mother's Day Walk For Peace – May 12, 2019

The [Mother's Day Walk for Peace](#) has been gathering those affected by gun violence and their supporters for 23 years. Join us on Mother's Day, May 12, to demand both an end to this violence and dignity and compassion for all families impacted by murder.

The Mother's Day Walk is also the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute's most important fundraising event. We're asking you to invest in community-based solutions to a complex problem. In 2019, our goal is to raise \$400,000 for our critical programs and services.

Join a Group of Parishioners who will be walking. For all the details and to register for (or donate to) our Team, go to <https://lbdpeace.z2systems.com/fpcambuu>.

TRAVELERS - Friday, May 17 at 7:00 pm

An Evening of Storytelling by Members and Friends of First Parish in Cambridge

Come and hear real-life stories from some of your fellow parishioners and enjoy an evening of community and entertainment! Featuring our All Star Cast: Laura Heath-Stout, Susan Shepherd, Grey Lee, Mandy Neff, Valerie Fullum, Rashid Shaikh, Larry Childs and more!

3 Church Street, Harvard Square, Cambridge, MA 02138

Light refreshments at intermission

Tickets: \$12 in advance; \$15 at the door

ADVANCE TICKETS May be purchased by contacting the church office or by following this link

(https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/Vanco_ver3.vps...)

and clicking on STORYTELLING EVENT

JUNE 2 IS THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Congregational Business meeting will be held directly after the service on **Sunday, June 2**. All Members will want to attend for a conversation that will include what First Parish is doing to live into our Mission and plans for restoration of our historic Meetinghouse. Governing Board elections will be held and the 2019-2020 budget submitted for approval. More information will be available in announcements and on the website (firstparishcambridge.org) as we get closer to the event.

First Parish Retreat

The Retreat Planning Team is asking you to save the date for the First Parish one-day retreat on Saturday, **June 8** to Salisbury Beach State Reservation. Please come to the table at social hour to voice your preferences about the retreat in terms of food, activities, etc. Let us know what you'd like to see. We'll take your suggestions and plan around them.

Get involved!

Do you want to meet more people at First Parish?

A great way to meet people and get involved at First Parish is to **join The Welcome Team Ministry**. Members commit once a month to usher or greet for the hour before church and assist with the collection and other small tasks during the service. Serving on the team allows you to help create a welcoming atmosphere for newcomers. It is a wonderful way to connect with members as well as newcomers. Information is available on the bulletin board in the parlor.

Accompaniment Volunteering

First Parish is a member of the CISC, a coalition of 10 Cambridge-area congregations that is currently hosting a woman and her two children in sanctuary so she can avoid deportation and separation from her family. "Accompaniment" volunteers are needed seven

days a week on-site at a church in Harvard Square. Sometimes volunteer shifts are quiet, and sometimes there is a lot of interaction with the children. We can pair you with an experienced volunteer so you won't be on your own. Volunteering helps in her long process of fighting to stay in the U.S.

Child Care Volunteering

The CISC childcare team is looking for several new volunteers who can commit to regular monthly outings to ensure that the children (ages 2 and almost 4) are able to spend time outside each day. A simple hour or two of outdoor play means so much in the life of this family we've committed as a coalition to support. Because coverage and consistency are ongoing concerns, we are looking for people who can commit to at least 2 weekday morning or afternoon outings a month.

Please email Rebecca Balder, First Parish's volunteer coordinator, at BBSF@firstparishcambridge.org to learn more about either of these opportunities.

Groups

Our Elders Group is open and meets on the 1st Tuesday of every month at 2:30 pm in the Chapel. If you are interested, please contact Rev. Danielle at ddibona@firstparishcambridge.org.

The **Young Adult Group (YAG)** is a community for people ages 18-35. YAG meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 7pm upstairs in the Nursery and sometimes meets for food and social events on other occasions. Newcomers are always welcome. For more information visit our website cambridgeyag.org.

Spanish Conversation Group

¿Hablas español? First Parish's **Spanish Conversation Group** meets on first and third Tuesdays of every month at 6:00 p.m. in the Baldwin Room. Come join us for informal conversation in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere. All levels are welcome and no commitment is required! For more information, email spanish@firstparishcambridge.org. ¡Nos vemos pronto!

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care is available for you. If you would like a pastoral care phone call or visit please let us know. Our ministers are available to support you. Please contact them directly by phone at 617-528-9838 or email at pastoralcare@firstparishcambridge.org

Safety Reminder

Please remember that the 3 Church Street door is locked beginning at 10:30 on Sunday mornings to help ensure the safety of our space. If you are entering for worship after the door is locked, please use the Mass. Avenue entrance. Accessible entrance is available at 1 Church Street. If you are entering after 10:30 for Religious Education or other programming ring the buzzer at 3 Church Street and someone will let you in.

Events This Week

Please note that Yoga, Music and Art and Cooking Classes are not First Parish programs. They are run by outside instructors and a fee is associated with the classes.

Sunday

April 28

- 10:30 am Sunday Worship
- 12:15 pm Preemptive Radical Inclusion in the Chapel
- 12:30 pm Mandarin Class in the Fuller Room
- 6:30 pm Racial Equity Team in the Chapel

Monday

April 29

- 5:00 pm Harvard Extension School in the Barn Room
- 6:30 pm AA in the Parlor
- 6:30 pm Art Class in the Chapel

Tuesday

April 30

- 9:00 am Yoga in the Barn Room
- 5:30 pm Tuesday Meals in the Parlor
- 5:30 pm Harvard Extension School in the Barn Room

Wednesday

May 1

- 9:00 am Yoga in the Barn Room
- 3:00 pm Sanctuary Worship in the Barn Room
- 6:30 pm Two Brattle in the Baldwin Room
- 7:00 pm BBSF in the Chapel
- 8:00 pm AA in the Parlor

Thursday

May 2

- 9:00 am Yoga in the Barn Room
- 12:00 pm Yoga in the Barn Room
- 6:00 pm Yoga in the Barn Room
- 7:00 pm Social Justice Council in the Chapel

Friday

May 3

- 9:00 am Groovy Baby Music in the Chapel
- 6:00 pm Family Game Night in the Parlor

Saturday

May 4

- 8:00 am Cambridge Minyan in the Parlor and the Chapel
- 8:30 am GSA in the Chapel
- 10:00 am Yoga in the Barn Room
- 6:00 pm Women's Circle in the Barn Room